

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Canceled)

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) A digital broadcast receiving system having a receiver receiving a digital broadcast signal including an information table describing a program parameter forming a program, said receiver comprising:

a parameter set portion configured to set said program parameter described in said information table included in said digital broadcast signal as a signal extraction parameter; and

a signal extraction portion configured to extract a program signal from said digital broadcast signal on the basis of said signal extraction parameter,

said parameter set portion configured to detect content change of said information table on the basis of a predetermined criterion and to set said program parameter, described in said information table, that has changed as said signal extraction parameter upon detecting said content change, wherein

said information table further describes ~~said PCR~~ a program clock reference (PCR), and

said parameter set portion is configured to monitor a discontinuity of said PCR, while said predetermined criterion includes presence/absence of discontinuity of said PCR.

4. (Currently Amended) A digital broadcast receiving system having a receiver receiving a digital broadcast signal including an information table describing a program parameter forming a program, said receiver comprising:

a parameter set portion configured to set said program parameter described in said information table included in said digital broadcast signal as a signal extraction parameter; and

a signal extraction portion configured to extract a program signal from said digital broadcast signal on the basis of said signal extraction parameter,

said parameter set portion configured to detect content change of said information table on the basis of a predetermined criterion and to set said program parameter, described in said information table, that has changed as said signal extraction parameter upon detecting said content change, wherein

said information table further describes ~~said PCR~~ a program clock reference (PCR), and

said parameter set is configured to monitor the received state of said PCR, while said predetermined criterion includes whether or not said PCR is unreceivable for a predetermined time.

5. (Previously presented) A digital broadcast receiving system having a receiver receiving a digital broadcast signal including an information table describing a program parameter forming a program, said receiver comprising:

a parameter set portion configured to set said program parameter described in said information table included in said digital broadcast signal as a signal extraction parameter; and

a signal extraction portion configured to extract a program signal from said digital broadcast signal on the basis of said signal extraction parameter,

said parameter set portion configured to detect content change of said information table on the basis of a predetermined criterion and to set said program parameter, described in said information table, that has changed as said signal extraction parameter upon detecting said content change, wherein

said receiver further comprises:

a decoding portion configured to decode said program signal, and

said parameter set portion is configured to monitor a result of decoding by said decoding portion, while said predetermined criterion includes presence/absence of error occurrence in said result of decoding.

6. (Previously presented) A digital broadcast receiving system having a receiver receiving a digital broadcast signal including an information table describing a program parameter forming a program, said receiver comprising:

a parameter set portion configured to set said program parameter described in said information table included in said digital broadcast signal as a signal extraction parameter; and

a signal extraction portion configured to extract a program signal from said digital broadcast signal on the basis of said signal extraction parameter,

said parameter set portion configured to detect content change of said information table on the basis of a predetermined criterion and to set said program parameter, described in said

information table, that has changed as said signal extraction parameter upon detecting said content change, wherein

said digital broadcast signal includes an EPG (electric program guide) describing a schedule for a broadcasted program, and

said parameter set portion is configured to previously recognize an end time of a currently received program from said EPG, while said predetermined criterion includes whether or not reaching said end time of said program.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Previously presented) The digital broadcast receiving system according to claim 6, further comprising:

a recording/reproducing portion having a recording/reproducing part configured to receive an externally received digital broadcast signal from outside for recording said externally received digital broadcast signal while outputting recorded said signal as a digital broadcast signal for reproduction, wherein

said digital broadcast signal includes said digital broadcast signal for reproduction,

said receiver further comprises a storage portion, and

said parameter set portion is configured to extract a next program information table servicing as an information table for a next program subsequent to a current program currently received by said receiver from said digital broadcast signal for reproduction recorded in said recording/reproducing part, previously preserves a program parameter described in said next

program information table as a next program parameter, and reads said next program parameter from said storage portion to set said next program parameter as said signal extraction parameter when the contents of said information table change.

9. (Previously presented) A digital broadcast receiving system having a receiver receiving a digital broadcast signal including an information table describing a program parameter forming a program, said receiver comprising:

a parameter set portion configured to set said program parameter described in said information table included in said digital broadcast signal as a signal extraction parameter; and

a signal extraction portion configured to extract a program signal from said digital broadcast signal on the basis of said signal extraction parameter,

said parameter set portion configured to detect content change of said information table on the basis of a predetermined criterion and to set said program parameter, described in said information table, that has changed as said signal extraction parameter upon detecting said content change;

a recording/reproducing portion having a recording/reproducing part configured to receive an externally received digital broadcast signal from outside for recording said externally received digital broadcast signal while outputting recorded said signal as a digital broadcast signal for reproduction, wherein

said digital broadcast signal includes said digital broadcast signal for reproduction,

said recording/reproducing portion further comprises:

a discontinuity flag adding part for adding a discontinuity flag to said externally received digital broadcast signal when said recording/reproducing part stops recording said externally received digital broadcast signal and making said recording/reproducing part record said externally received digital broadcast signal to which said discontinuity flag is added as said digital broadcast signal for reproduction, and

said parameter set portion is configured to monitor said discontinuity flag in said digital broadcast signal for reproduction, while said predetermined criterion includes presence/absence of said discontinuity flag.

10. (Previously presented) A digital broadcast receiving system having a receiver receiving a digital broadcast signal including an information table describing a program parameter forming a program, said receiver comprising:

a parameter set portion configured to set said program parameter described in said information table included in said digital broadcast signal as a signal extraction parameter; and

a signal extraction portion configured to extract a program signal from said digital broadcast signal on the basis of said signal extraction parameter,

said parameter set portion configured to detect content change of said information table on the basis of a predetermined criterion and to set said program parameter, described in said information table, that has changed as said signal extraction parameter upon detecting said content change;

a recording/reproducing portion having a recording/reproducing part configured to receive an externally received digital broadcast signal from outside for recording said externally

received digital broadcast signal while outputting recorded said signal as a digital broadcast signal for reproduction, wherein

said digital broadcast signal includes said digital broadcast signal for reproduction,

said recording/reproducing portion further comprises:

a discontinuity flag adding part adding a discontinuity flag to said digital broadcast signal for reproduction when said recording/reproducing part shifts from a reproducing state for said digital broadcast signal for reproduction to a stop state, and

said parameter set portion is configured to monitor said discontinuity flag in said digital broadcast signal for reproduction, while said predetermined criterion includes presence/absence of said discontinuity flag.

11. (Previously presented) A digital broadcast receiving system having a receiver receiving a digital broadcast signal including an information table describing a program parameter forming a program, said receiver comprising:

a parameter set portion configured to set said program parameter described in said information table included in said digital broadcast signal as a signal extraction parameter; and

a signal extraction portion configured to extract a program signal from said digital broadcast signal on the basis of said signal extraction parameter,

said parameter set portion configured to detect content change of said information table on the basis of a predetermined criterion and to set said program parameter, described in said information table, that has changed as said signal extraction parameter upon detecting said content change;

a recording/reproducing portion having a recording/reproducing part configured to receive an externally received digital broadcast signal from outside for recording said externally received digital broadcast signal while outputting recorded said signal as a digital broadcast signal for reproduction, wherein

said digital broadcast signal includes said digital broadcast signal for reproduction,

said recording/reproducing portion further comprises:

an identification code adding portion configured to add an identification code identifiable in a program unit to an information table in said externally received digital broadcast signal when said recording/reproducing part records said externally received digital signal and make said recording/reproducing portion record said externally received digital broadcast signal to which said identification code is added as said digital broadcast signal for reproduction, and

said parameter set portion is configured to monitor said identification code added to said information table in said digital broadcast signal for reproduction, while said predetermined criterion includes presence/absence of change of said identification code.

12. (Previously presented) A digital broadcast receiving system having a receiver receiving a digital broadcast signal including an information table describing a program parameter forming a program, said receiver comprising:

a parameter set portion configured to set said program parameter described in said information table included in said digital broadcast signal as a signal extraction parameter; and

a signal extraction portion configured to extract a program signal from said digital broadcast signal on the basis of said signal extraction parameter,

said parameter set portion configured to detect content change of said information table on the basis of a predetermined criterion and to set said program parameter, described in said information table, that has changed as said signal extraction parameter upon detecting said content change;

a recording/reproducing portion having a recording/reproducing part configured to receive an externally received digital broadcast signal from outside for recording said externally received digital broadcast signal while outputting recorded said signal as a digital broadcast signal for reproduction, wherein

said digital broadcast signal includes said digital broadcast signal for reproduction,

said recording/reproducing portion further comprises:

an identification code adding portion configured to add a new identification code to an information table in said digital broadcast signal for reproduction every time said recording/reproducing part shifts from a reproducing state for said digital broadcast signal for reproduction to a stop state, and

said parameter set portion is configured to monitor said identification code added to said information table in said digital broadcast signal for reproduction, while said predetermined criterion includes presence/absence of change of said identification code.

13. (Previously presented) A digital broadcast receiving system having a receiver receiving a digital broadcast signal including an information table describing a program parameter forming a program, said receiver comprising:

a parameter set portion configured to set said program parameter described in said information table included in said digital broadcast signal as a signal extraction parameter; and

a signal extraction portion configured to extract a program signal from said digital broadcast signal on the basis of said signal extraction parameter,

said parameter set portion configured to detect content change of said information table on the basis of a predetermined criterion and to set said program parameter, described in said information table, that has changed as said signal extraction parameter upon detecting said content change, wherein

said information table includes:

a current program information table corresponding to a currently broadcasted program,
and

a next program information table corresponding to a program broadcasted next, and
wherein,

said parameter set portion

previously performs temporary set processing extracting said next program information table from said digital broadcast signal and temporarily setting a program parameter described in said next program information table as a next program parameter,

monitors the contents of said current program information table while said predetermined criterion includes whether or not the contents of said current program information table change to the contents of said next program information table, and

performs real set processing setting temporarily set said next program parameter as said signal extraction parameter when the contents of said information table change.

14. (Previously presented) The digital broadcast signal receiving system according to claim 13, wherein

said receiver includes a storage portion,

said temporary set processing includes processing of making said storage portion store said next program parameter, and

said read set processing includes processing of reading said next program parameter from said storage portion and setting said next program parameter as a signal extraction parameter.

15. (Previously presented) The digital broadcast signal receiving system according to claim 13, wherein

said signal extraction portion is configured to extract a program signal from said digital broadcast signal on the basis of valid said signal extraction parameter,

said temporary setting includes processing of temporarily setting said next program parameter without validating the same as said signal extraction parameter, and

said real set processing includes processing of validating said signal extraction parameter.

16. (Canceled)